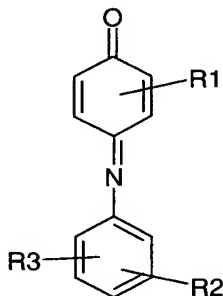


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coating composition for making a protein microarray, the composition comprising a gelling agent or a precursor to a gelling agent and microspheres; the
 5 microspheres containing a dye represented by Formula (I):



Formula (I)

10 wherein: R1 is one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of H, Cl, Br, I, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkylamino, arylamino, acyl, nitrile, alkoxy, aryl, heteroaryl, sulfone, sulfamoyl, sulfonamido, or substituted or unsubstituted amido; and R2 and R3 are independently H, substituted amino, alkoxy, substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted amido, or Cl.